Western Directors' Climate Change Forum 2011

Hunter and Angler Perspective

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Wildlife Management Institute

Hunter/Angler Surveys

- 2006 Responsive Management Survey TU/WMI (n= 1,306)
 - "Hunters' and Anglers' Opinions and Attitudes Toward Global Warming and Climate Change"
- 2006 Responsive Management Survey NWF (n= 1,031)
 - "Sportsmen's Attitudes Towards Global Warming/Climate Change"

- 94% heard of "global warming"
- 83% heard of "climate change"

- 58% said they knew a moderate or great deal about the topic
- 42% said they knew little or nothing about the topic

- Major concerns were:
 - Water quality
 - Habitat loss
 - Health of fish populations

- Global Warming/Climate Change
 - "important, but a lower priority"

79% agreed that Climate Change is occurring

- Climate Change concerns:
 - Habitat impacts
 - Water quality and quantity
 - More intense weather events such as droughts/floods/hurricanes

Hunters and Anglers Agreed:

Climate Change will impact hunting and fishing conditions

| Within 5 years | 71% |
|------------------------------------|-----|
|------------------------------------|-----|

| Within 10 years | 72% |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
|-------------------------------------|-----|

| • Within 50 years | 73% |
|-------------------|-----|
|-------------------|-----|

Messages that mattered to hunters/anglers

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- "Alternative energy sources may cost more now but will eventually save the U.S. money"
- "Deal with climate change now before it is too late"

Political Influence

- Approx 14 million hunters
- Approx 40 million anglers
- 84% of sportsmen are registered voters

- Republican 27%
- Democrat 23%
- No Affiliation 31%
- Other/No response 19%

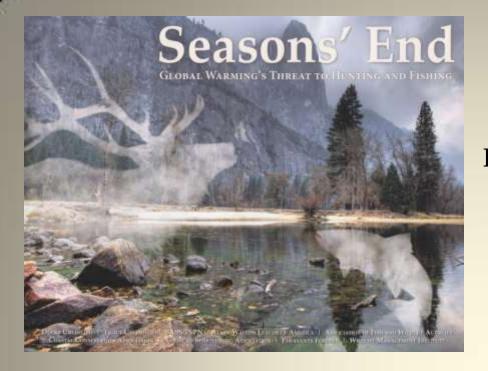
Political Influence

Conservative 40%

Moderate 30%

• Liberal 11%

 Hunters and Anglers are a political force and they are issue-oriented

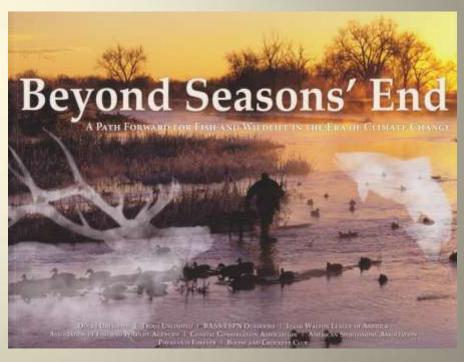


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Contributors

- Ducks Unlimited
- Trout Unlimited
- BASS/ESPN Outdoors
- Izaak Walton League of America
- Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies WAFWA
- Coastal Conservation Association
- American Sportfishing Association
- Pheasants Forever
- Boone and Crockett Club
- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
- Wildlife Management Institute

Here's what we told your hunters and anglers:

Focused on climate change impacts to fish, wildlife, habitat, and related recreation

Effects on population abundance and distribution

Habitat loss and conversion – forage quality

Seasons' End GLOBAL WARMING'S THREAT TO HUNTING AND FISHING

Migration and connectivity barriers

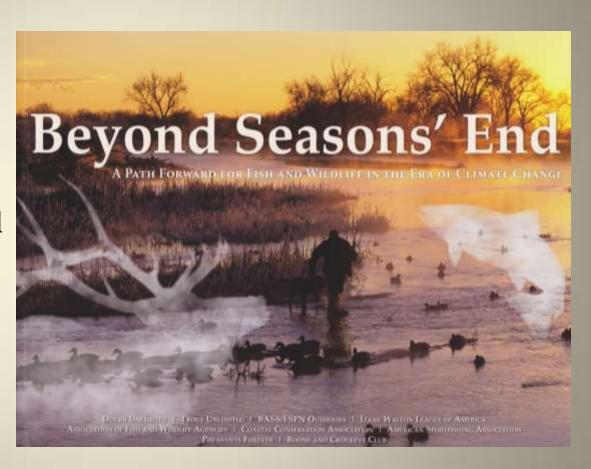


Here's what we told your hunters and anglers:

Focused on adaptation necessary to secure fish and wildlife resources

Need for inventory, monitoring research, and adaptive management

Need for planning, habitat management, connectivity projects



Need for increased agency funding



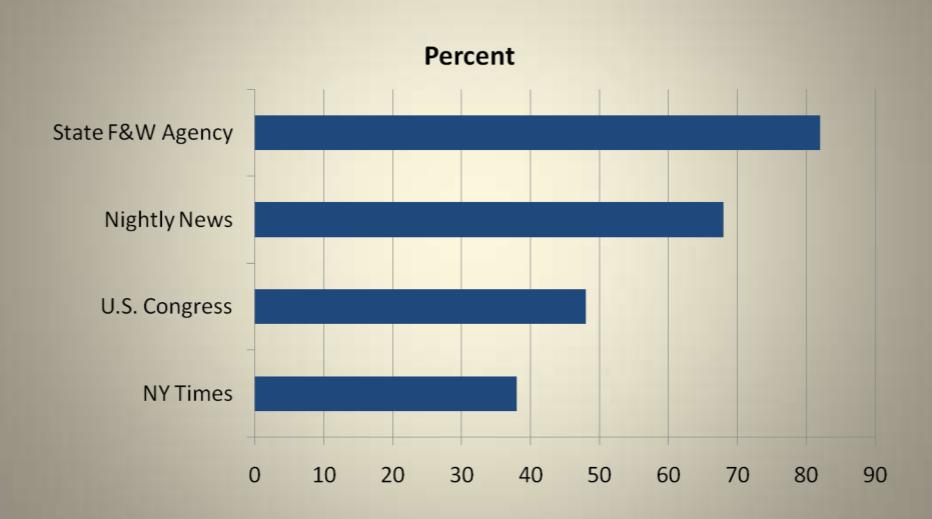
Why should hunters and anglers care?

- Season lengths and timing
- Creel and bag limits
- Migration patterns and timing
- Local hunting and fishing spots
- Population abundance and distribution
- Public water rights may lose out to private water rights

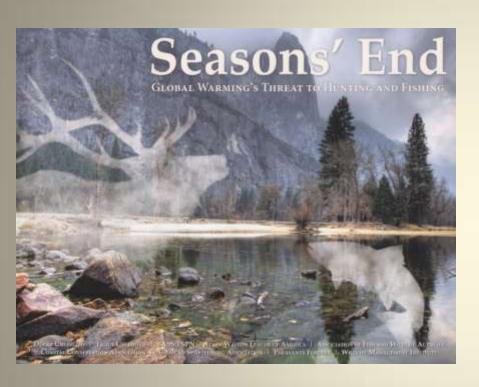
Why should state agencies care?

- Impact on ecosystems, communities, and populations
- Hunters and anglers are concerned
- Economic impacts to state and agency
- Future challenges associated with population and habitat management
- Future challenges to regulatory decisionmaking and the impact on customers

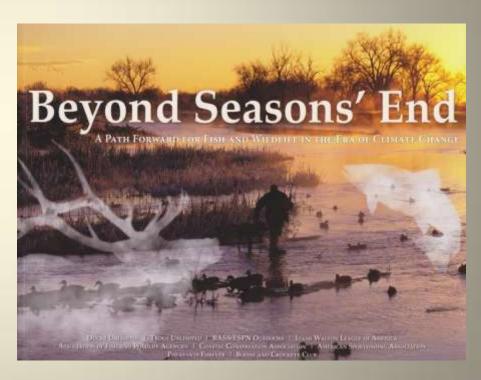
Climate Change Credibility



Check out the websites for further information and updates:



seasonsend.org



beyondseasonsend.org